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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Cuba: draft resolution

Adherence to environmental standards in the elaboration and implementation of disarmament and arms control agreements

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance for the preservation of the environment of adherence to environmental standards in the elaboration and implementation of disarmament and arms control agreements,

Noting the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction calling for due respect for the environment in the implementation of the Convention, in particular in the process of destroying chemical weapons,

Convinced of the importance for the environment of the elaboration of a verification mechanism for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction on the basis of the results of the work of the ad hoc group established for that purpose,

Persuaded that the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty is of the utmost importance for the protection of the environment,

Desirous of prohibiting military or other hostile uses of environmental modification techniques with a view to eliminating the dangers such uses would entail for mankind,

1. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to take all steps necessary to ensure the inclusion of appropriate environmental standards in disarmament and

arms control treaties and agreements, with a view to protecting the environment throughout the implementation of the provisions of those treaties and agreements, in particular in the process of destroying the weapons dealt with therein;

2. Urges the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to follow up on all environmental issues under negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament;

3. Emphasizes that it is important for each State Party to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, in fulfilling its obligations under this Convention, to accord the highest priority to ensuring the protection of the environment in the process of destroying chemical weapons and to cooperating with the other States Parties in that regard;

4. Urges the ad hoc group of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition, Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction to take relevant environmental protection issues into account at its forthcoming meetings;

5. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to take the necessary steps to ensure the speedy conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty, which would be a very valuable instrument for environmental protection;

6. Urges States which are not parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques to accede to it as soon as possible, given the importance of ensuring the universality of that legal instrument.